plants proposed to be set up in each State/Union Territory, indicating their cost and generation capacity; and

(c) the Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal is preliminary and does not give sufficient details. The proposed gas fired power plants are to be set up in different locations, which have not been indicated. The Government generally welcomes proposals for investment in the power sector.

Additional Electricity Supply to Haryana

2814. SHRI LACHHMAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for supply of additional electricity to Haryana to meet the current shortage:

(b) whether Government propose to sanction a new power plant for Haryana; if so, by when;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to privatise electricity supply to consumers in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) It has been decided to divert 40 MW of power from the firm share of Uttar Pradesh in Fcroz Gandhi. UnchalTar Thermal Power Station to improve the current shortage of power in Haryana.

(c) Yes. Sir. A gas based power station in NTPC at Faridabad has been tcchno-cconomically cleared by Central Electricity Authority and approved by PIB.

(c) and (d) After discussions with the State Government officials and at Chief Ministers' level, Government has recently adopted Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power which includes Private Sector participation in distribution of electricity. The process of private participation shall initially be in one or two viable geographical areas covering both urban and rural areas in a State. The Government of Haryana has announced a new Power Sector Policy on the line of the policy adopted by the Government of Orissa, which includes privatisation of distribution system also. The first area to be privatised in Haryana will be East Zone (Districts of Panipat, Karnal & Sonepat).

Power Projects in Bihar

2815. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals from Bihar Government for setting up power projects in public and private sector, cleared by the Central Government as on date;

(b) the expenditure incurred on each project;

(c) the number of such proposals pending for clearance in each sector; and

(d) by when the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) As on date, there are 5 sanctioned ongoing schemes under execution in State Sector in Bihar. These are Eastern Gandak Canal Unit 3 (5 MW), North Koel HE Project (24 MW), Chaudil HE Project (8 MW), Tenughat TPS St-II (630 MW) and Muzaffarpur TPS Extension (500 MW).

(b) Expenditure incurred on Eastern Gandak Canal, North Koel and Chandil projects upto March, 1996 has been Rs. 60.14 corres (approx), Rs. 13.40 crores and Rs. 33.24 crores respectively. Tenughat II and Muzaffarpur Extension projects are awaiting implementation for want of tying up of funds. As per the information received from Government of Bihar, no expenditure except Rs. 51 lakhs for the consulting services for the

Muzaffarpur Extension have been spent on these two thermal projects.

(c) No proposals from Government of Bihar are pending for clearance in the Central Electricity Authority.

(d) Does not arise.

Fast Track Power Porject at Vizag

2816. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fast track power project being set up at Vizag with Japanese colloboration has been held up; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project (1040 MW), being set up by M£. Hinduja National Power Corporation Ltd., has obtained the techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority. The Power Purchase Agreement and the Coal Supply and Transportation Agreement for the project have yet to be finalised.

Techno-Economic Clearance of IPPs by CEA

2817. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to do away with the Techno-economic clearance by CEA, in case of Independent Power Producers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and in what manner Government propose to ensure the reasonableness of project cost, standardisation of equipment, norms of auxiliary consumption, etc.; and

(c) how Government propose to check formation of cartels among IPPs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) All the power projects of private generating companies costing more than Rs. 100 crores (in case of projects awarded through Memorandum of Understanding (MOUyLetter of Intent (LOI), etc. route) and costing more than Rs. 1,000 crores (in case of projects awarded through competitive bidding) have to obtain techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority.

(c) To ensure that State Electricity Boards-Electricity Utilities would obtain competitive prices from the Independent Power Producers (IPPs), Government of India have made competitive bidding mandatory for awarding power projects to private sector after 18.2.1995.

Power Supply position in States

2818. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the power deficit^urplus position of each State;

(b) whether there is any scheme for a centrally-operated distribution system, involving all the States; if so, by when it would be completed;

(c) what schemes are there to avoid Transmission and Distribution losses; and

(d) what is the present Transmission and Distribution loss, both at the National and State levels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) During the period April-February, 97 State-wise power supply position is given in Statement (See below). '

(b) and (c) The responsibility for distribution of electricity vests with the State Electricity Boatd&EIectricity Deptts. In order to reduce the transmission and distribution losses, the Central Electricity Authority had issued